

IPAS Program Priorities and Objectives

Goals help people focus. Goals are benchmarks by which one can measure success. Every year, the Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services Commission develops and refocuses priorities to determine how its efforts will be directed. This new set of priorities, outlined in detail on the following pages, will be in use from October 1, 2004, to September 30, 2005.

These new priorities are based on input collected each year. The priorities are approved by the IPAS Commission.

These changing priorities also consider new laws that have been passed and the increasing development of technology. Therefore as you consider these priorities, recognize each priority represents a barrier for persons with disabilities, a barrier to having the information, skills, opportunities, and support to:

- Live free of abuse, neglect, financial and sexual exploitation, and violations of legal and human rights.
- Make informed choices and decisions about their lives.
- Achieve full integration and inclusion in society, in an individualized manner, consistent with the unique strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, and capabilities of each individual.

Essentially, each priority is designed to reduce barriers and as a result increase opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

Three major resources were used in developing the program priorities:

- IPAS staff considered federal laws such as the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (DD Act) and the Protection and Advocacy for Mentally Ill Individuals Act of 1986. For example, the DD Act provides the Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services Commission with its PADD program emphasis of quality assurance, education, early intervention, child care, health, employment, housing, transportation, recreation, and other service activities. The DD Act then suggests that advocacy, capacity building, and systems change are methods of implementing emphasis areas.
- Next, data was collected from participants of focus groups and from individuals that responded to the IPAS priority survey. Fifty percent of respondents to this were primary and secondary consumers. The remaining 50 percent were professionals in the field.
- Finally, IPAS staff experience was considered. Our experience has always been a reliable “barometer” of what remains to be accomplished.

Who is IPAS?

IPAS is an independent state agency separate from all other state agencies and programs. IPAS was established in 1977 in response to federal requirements for a program to advocate for the rights of individuals with developmental disabilities. Since then, more programs have been added to serve the advocacy needs of specific groups of individuals with disabilities.

Like the rest of America, Indiana obtains great strengths from the diversity of our people. The advantages of diversity can be seen all around us, through people who share differing abilities, experiences, traditions, and ideas that enrich our lives and our culture.

For the good of everyone in Indiana, the Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services Commission is here to defend the rights of citizens with different abilities and extend equal opportunity and empowerment to people with disabilities.

People with disabilities have rights under the law

Today, there are more than 56 million Americans with disabilities. A disability is a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity. The United States Congress has determined that disabilities are a natural part of the human experience, and to help ensure that no one is excluded from participating in the mainstream of society, Congress has enacted laws providing a variety of support services and programs for people with disabilities.

People with developmental or physical disabilities, and/or mental illnesses, are also protected under the laws that prohibit discrimination, abuse and neglect. Like all Americans, they have the right to live their lives as fully and independently as possible and with the freedom to make their own choices and decisions to the extent that their abilities will allow.

To see that the human, legal and civil rights of people with disabilities are affirmed, Congress established protection and advocacy (P&A) systems in each state. Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services provides advocacy for Indiana citizens. IPAS proudly serves people with disabilities, helping them exercise their

right to appropriate treatment, as well as providing training and resources to ensure their inclusion in the life of our communities.

Rights are being wronged

Too often, individuals with disabilities are:

- abused or neglected by caregivers;
- denied appropriate medical, rehabilitation, or psychiatric treatment;
- denied free and appropriate public educational services;
- denied physical access to public places and governmental services;
- discriminated against when trying to obtain employment or housing;
- denied the ability to make their own decisions and be a fully participating member of their community;
- denied the assistive technology services or devices they need to be more independent;
- denied the control of their private information being released without their consent; and
- denied the right to make their own choices as they prepare for employment through Vocational Rehabilitation or Ticket to Work training programs.

Righting the wrongs

IPAS can help by:

- helping you understand your rights;
- helping you learn self-advocacy skills;
- advising you on what steps you can take to secure your rights, such as appealing denials and filing complaints with appropriate governmental agencies; and
- representing you with an IPAS Advocacy Specialist or IPAS Attorney to correct rights violations.

Every year, IPAS represents hundreds of Hoosiers with disabilities in securing their rights to full community participation and helps thousands more through information and referral services.

INDIANA PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY SERVICES AGENCY WIDE PRIORITIES

OCTOBER 1, 2004, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2005

Priority 1: To assure the provision of high-quality advocacy

OBJECTIVES:

- Maintain or exceed 90% affirmative ratings of all responses on all assessed parameters of the mailed Information and Referral Customer Satisfaction Survey.
- Maintain or exceed 90% affirmative ratings of all responses on all assessed parameters of the mailed Customer Satisfaction Survey for closed cases.
- Implement new customer satisfaction interview process to identify and report outcomes resulting from IPAS advocacy efforts questionnaire. (Revised for 2004-05)

Priority 2: Outreach to the public and to individuals with disabilities, concerning disability rights issues, IPAS services and successes.

OBJECTIVES:

- Conduct various public information activities, including a tri-annual newsletter, to inform individuals and groups about disability rights issues, and IPAS services and successes.
- Obtain public comment about priorities and objectives for use in developing three-year plan for FY 20052008. (Revised for 2004-05)
- Increase effective use of information technology as a means of empowerment and self-advocacy.

Priority 3: Outreach to minority and underserved individuals with disabilities, concerning disability rights issues, IPAS services and successes.

OBJECTIVES:

- Outreach to Indiana's Native Americans.
- Outreach to Indiana's African Americans.
- Outreach to Indiana's Latino communities.

Priority 4: Provide timely and accurate information for management and reporting.

OBJECTIVES:

- Produce information for all agency programs' annual reports on timelines to be established for each of the programs, enabling timely completion of all annual reports.
- Continue phasing out IPAS internal database in favor of DADS.

PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (PADD)

OCTOBER 1, 2004, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2005

For individuals who meet the federal definition of developmental disabilities. The Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities (PADD) Program was established under Sections 141-145 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance Bill of Rights Act. PADD's role is to ensure that people with Developmental Disabilities and their families participate in the design of and have access to needed community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance. PADD is funded out of the Administration of Children and Families (ACF) and the Administration of Developmental Disabilities (ADD) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Priority 1: To reduce or eliminate the abuse and neglect of individuals with developmental disabilities.

OBJECTIVES:

- Review allegations of abuse and neglect and take appropriate action on behalf of 20 individuals with developmental disabilities that reside in state operated facilities.
- Monitor selected death investigations of individuals with developmental disabilities that resided in state supported settings to document that an investigation was initiated and completed by the responsible state entity.
- Document Adult Protective Services compliance with IC 12-10-3 (investigation of abuse and neglect) at state operated facilities.
- Review complaints on behalf of 10 individuals with developmental disabilities and take appropriate action to assure that state supported residential services that are provided through the Division of Disability, Aging, and Rehabilitation Services are provided in a manner that maximizes potential and is provided in the setting that is least restrictive of the individual's personal liberty.
- Assure that community settings are safe and habilitation plans are appropriate for 25 individuals with developmental disabilities who have applied for or are receiving state supported residential services through the Division of Disability, Aging, and Rehabilitation Services.
- Increase compliance with the American's with Disabilities Act (ADA) in relation to the Olmstead decision and Indiana's community integration efforts.
- Review allegations of discrimination on behalf of 10 individuals with developmental disabilities who have been denied services under the ADA Title 2 and 3, or Fair Housing and take appropriate action.
- Increase awareness regarding disability rights through participation on the Governor's Council on Disabilities and the Indiana Institute on Disability and Community's Advisory Council.
- Review allegations that educational services have been inappropriately reduced or terminated due to suspension or expulsion on behalf of 25 students with developmental disabilities and take appropriate action to assure their right to receive a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE).
- Review allegations on behalf of five students with developmental disabilities in four targeted special education entities (maximum of 20 individuals represented) that may have been denied the benefits of or subjected to discrimination under the provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or Sections 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, to obtain/retain appropriate educational services.
- Strengthen policies and practices affecting the State's response to disability rights issues affecting individuals with developmental disabilities through participation on committees, groups and task forces.

PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (PADD) CONTINUED

OCTOBER 1, 2004, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2005

- Strengthen state operated facility policies and practices regarding resident rights through participation on at least 75% of Resident/Human Rights Committee meetings.
- Assure that all people with developmental disabilities receive equal justice as victims, witnesses, defendants, and offenders through the collaborative efforts of the members of the Indiana Partnership for Equal Justice, including representatives from the Governor's Planning Council for Persons with Disabilities (the state DD council) and the Indiana Institute for Disability and Community.
- IPAS will represent three individuals in their appeal of reduced Developmental Disability (DD) or Aged and Disabled (A&D) waiver services i.e. to enforce state and federal Medicaid regulations to secure appropriate services for individuals receiving DD waiver services. (Revised for FY 04-05)
- Assure that eligible individuals receive approved Medicaid waiver services within a reasonable time.
- In selected cases, IPAS legal representatives will serve as guardian ad litem or court appointed counsel for three individuals with developmental disabilities to provide additional protection to preserve their rights in the judicial system.

Priority 2: IPAS will provide timely and accurate information to individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and professionals about disability rights and provide information and technical assistance concerning the exercise of these rights.

OBJECTIVE:

- Respond to requests for information and referral and technical assistance.

Priority 3: Increase awareness and empowerment through provision of training and technical assistance to individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and professionals about disability rights and the exercise of these rights.

OBJECTIVES:

- Conduct two treatment rights training events for guardians or residents of Fort Wayne and Muscatatuck Developmental Centers.
- Provide technical assistance and information about disability rights and IPAS to parents or service program providers that have regular contact with parents of children with developmental disabilities.
- Disseminate information regarding disability rights and IPAS at two events related to the provisions of child-care for all children including children with developmental disabilities.
- Conduct one statewide conference regarding resident rights issues.
- Increase awareness regarding voting rights of individuals with developmental disabilities through the development and dissemination of a training video.
- Increase awareness regarding effective mental health treatment for individuals with developmental disabilities through a collaborative effort to present a symposium on mental wellness for people with a dual diagnosis.

PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS (PAIMI)

OCTOBER 1, 2004, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2005

For individuals with mental illness. The Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness (PAIMI) Program was created and funded by the Protection and Advocacy for Mentally Ill Individuals Act of 1986. PAIMI investigates abuse, neglect and rights violations of people who have mental illnesses, especially those in facilities. PAIMI is funded out of the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS), a component of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Priority 1: To reduce or eliminate the abuse and neglect of individuals with mental illness.

OBJECTIVES:

- Review allegations of abuse or neglect on behalf of 30 individuals that reside in state operated mental health facilities and take appropriate action.
- Review allegations of abuse or neglect on behalf of 20 individuals seeking or receiving services at Comprehensive Mental Health Centers and take appropriate action.
- Monitor death investigations of individuals that resided in state operated mental health facilities to document that an investigation was initiated and completed by the responsible state entity.
- Review or complete investigations of the deaths of three individuals residing in community placements when there was the use of restraint/seclusion.
- Review 10 allegations of inappropriate use of seclusion/restraints and take appropriate action.
- Review 10 allegations of incidents of abuse and neglect on behalf of individuals residing at Room and Board Assistance facilities and take appropriate action.
- Document Adult Protective Services compliance with IC 12-10-3 (investigation of abuse and neglect) at state operated facilities.

Priority 2: To reduce or eliminate the denial of rights and discrimination due to a mental illness diagnosis.

OBJECTIVES:

- Review allegations of inappropriate individualized psychiatric treatment on behalf of three incarcerated individuals at any correctional facility and take appropriate action.
- Strengthen state operated facility policies and practices regarding resident rights through participation on at least 75% of Resident/Human Rights Committee meetings.
- Identify barriers to adequate assessment and treatment of the physical condition of individuals with mental illness.
- Review allegations that educational services have been inappropriately reduced or terminated due to suspension or expulsion on behalf of 25 students with mental illness and take appropriate action to assure their right to receive a Free and Appropriate Public Education.
- Review allegations on behalf of five students experiencing mental illness in four targeted special education entities (maximum of 20 individuals represented) that may have been denied the benefits of or subjected to discrimination under the provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or Sections 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, to obtain/retain appropriate educational services.

**PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY FOR INDIVIDUALS
WITH MENTAL ILLNESS (PAIMI) CONTINUED**
OCTOBER 1, 2004, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2005

- Provide advocacy services for three individuals allegedly subjected to disability based discrimination where and when it is deemed that the case or situation may have systemic implications.
- Provide individual legal representation on behalf of three individuals to protect their disability rights through serving as court appointed counsel or guardian ad litem.
- Review allegations of discrimination on behalf of 10 individuals who have been denied services under the ADA Title 2 and 3, or Fair Housing and take appropriate action.
- Strengthen policies and practices affecting the state's compliance with the American's with Disabilities Act in relation to the Olmstead decision and Indiana's community integration efforts and other disability rights issues through participation (75% of all meetings) on at least three committees, groups or task forces.
- Cause systemic changes to stop the State's continued execution of individuals with serious mental illness.

Priority 3: Provide timely and accurate information and technical assistance concerning the exercise of civil/disability rights to increase awareness and effective self-advocacy by individuals with mental illnesses, their families, and professionals.

OBJECTIVES:

- Conduct treatment/disability rights training sessions for residents of state operated facilities.
- Conduct 4 civil/disability rights training sessions for family members.
- Conduct nine resident rights training events at selected Comprehensive Mental Health Centers.
- Conduct one statewide conference regarding resident rights issues.
- Support the creation and/or development of Crisis Intervention Teams at one Indiana City Police Department.
- Provide timely and accurate information about disability rights and technical assistance concerning the exercise of these rights.
- Increase awareness regarding voting rights of individuals with mental illness through the development and dissemination of a training video.
- Increase awareness regarding effective mental health treatment for individuals with developmental disabilities through a collaborative effort to present a symposium on mental wellness for people with disabilities that are diagnosed with mental illness.

PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS PROGRAM (PAIR)

OCTOBER 1, 2004, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2005

For individuals who meet the ADA definition of disability and are not eligible under the other programs. The Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights (PAIR) Program is a federal formula grant program established under Section 509 of the Rehabilitation Act to promote the legal and human rights of people with disabilities. PAIR also addresses systemic reform issues to promote compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. PAIR is funded out of the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services Administration.

Priority 1: Reduce or eliminate the abuse and neglect of individuals with disabilities.

OBJECTIVE:

- Review allegations of abuse or neglect and take appropriate action on behalf of 10 individuals with disabilities.

Priority 2: Assure physical, program and service access through compliance with American's with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Fair Housing Act.

OBJECTIVES:

- Review allegations of discrimination on behalf of 25 individuals who have been denied services under the ADA Title 2 and 3, or Fair Housing and take appropriate action.
- Assure access for individuals with disabilities through participation on the ADA Steering Committee.

Priority 3: Special Education Rights and Services

OBJECTIVES:

- Review 10 allegations that students with disabilities have had their educational services inappropriately reduced or termination due to suspension or expulsion and take appropriate action to assure their right to receive a Free and Appropriate Public Education.
- Review allegations on behalf of three students with disabilities in four targeted special education entities (maximum of 12 individuals represented) that may have been denied the benefits of or subjected to discrimination under the provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or Sections 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, to obtain or retain appropriate educational services.

Priority 4: Provide timely and accurate information and referrals about disability rights and technical assistance concerning the exercise of these rights.

OBJECTIVE:

- Provide accurate information about disability rights and assistance concerning the exercise of these rights.

PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS PROGRAM (PAIR) CONTINUED

OCTOBER 1, 2004, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2005

Priority 5: Increase awareness and effective self-advocacy by providing timely and accurate technical assistance about civil disability rights and the exercise of these rights.

OBJECTIVES:

- Disseminate information regarding IPAS services to the regional offices of Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS (“HOPWA”).
- Identify parents or service programs that have regular contact with parents of children with disabilities and disseminate information regarding rights to equal access, information about IPAS and other disability rights.
- Participate in at least two events related to the provision of childcare for all children including children with disabilities.
- Participate in two events related to fair housing and housing discrimination.
- Increase awareness regarding voting rights of individuals with disabilities through the development and dissemination of a training video.

Priority 6: Identification of disability-related barriers.

OBJECTIVES:

- Identify individuals or organizations representing individuals with disabilities who are not eligible for advocacy services provided through the PADD, PAIMI, CAP, PAAT or PABSS programs.
- Identify those barriers that effect the ability of individuals with disabilities to live as independently and productively as they choose by meeting with individuals or representatives of various disability groups that cannot be served through other IPAS programs.

Priority 7: Disability Rights.

OBJECTIVES:

- Provide legal representation in 3 select cases to protect the disability rights of individuals through serving as court appointed counsel or guardian ad litem.
- IPAS will represent three individuals in their appeal of reduced Aged and Disabled (A&D) waiver services to enforce state and federal Medicaid regulations to secure appropriate (i.e. addresses the health and safety needs of the individual and provided in the least restrictive environment) services for those individuals with disabilities receiving services under the A&D waiver.
- Ensure that eligible individuals receive approved Medicaid waiver services within a reasonable time.
- Provide advocacy services for 3 individuals with disabilities that have allegedly been subjected to disability based discrimination where and when it is deemed that the case or situation may have systemic implications.

PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY FOR BENEFICIARIES OF SOCIAL SECURITY (PABSS)

OCTOBER 1, 2004, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2005

For individuals with disabilities who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) who want to work or return to work. The Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS) Program was established under the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999. The role of PABSS is to provide advocacy to beneficiaries of Social Security who have problems obtaining, maintaining, and retaining employment. PABSS is funded by the Social Security Administration.

Priority 1: Provide assistance and individual representation to Social Security beneficiaries with disabilities who are seeking vocational rehabilitation services, employment services and other support services from employment networks and other service providers.

OBJECTIVE:

- Review and investigate any complaint of improper or inadequate services provided to a beneficiary with a disability by a service provider, employer or other entity involved in the beneficiary's return to work effort.

Priority 2: Provide consultation to and legal representation on behalf of beneficiaries with disabilities when such services become necessary to protect the rights of such beneficiaries. To the extent possible, alternative dispute resolution procedures will be used.

OBJECTIVE:

- Legal Services staff will provide consultation to and representation on behalf of selected beneficiaries with disabilities

Priority 3: Identify and correct deficiencies in entities providing vocational rehabilitation services, employment services and other support services to beneficiaries with disabilities.

OBJECTIVES:

- Assure that all identified Employment Networks provide identified and required services to individuals desiring vocational outcomes under the Ticket to Work Program.
- Report to the program manager regarding identified deficiencies related to employment networks and other concerns related to the Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency program.

Priority 4: Provide information and referral to Social Security beneficiaries with disabilities about work incentives and employment, including information on the types of services and assistance that may be available to assist them in securing or regaining gainful employment, particularly services and assistance available through employment networks under the Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program.

OBJECTIVE:

- Provide information and referral to Social Security beneficiaries with disabilities about work incentives and employment, including information on the types of services and assistance that may be available to assist them in securing or regaining gainful employment, particularly services and assistance available through employment networks under the Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program. Provide information and technical assistance on work incentives to individuals, attorneys, governmental agencies, employment networks and other service providers, and advocacy organizations.

PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY FOR ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY (PAAT)

OCTOBER 1, 2004, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2005

For individuals with disabilities seeking Assistive Technology. The Protection and Advocacy for Assistive Technology (PAAT) Program is a federal grant program established under the Assistive Technology Act of 1998. Designed to promote the provision of assistive technology and services through systemic reform, PAAT has the authority to litigate class action issues and negotiate compliance with federal law. PAAT is funded out of the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services.

Priority 1: Assist individuals with disabilities in obtaining assistive technology services and devices.

OBJECTIVE:

- Assist individuals with disabilities in obtaining assistive technology services and devices in the areas of education, health care, employment, community living and in the use of telecommunications.

Priority 2: Increase the self-advocacy skills of individuals with disabilities and their families, advocates and other representatives.

OBJECTIVE:

- Provide education and training to increase the self-advocacy skills of individuals with disabilities and their families, advocates and other representatives, to enable them to obtain assistive technology services and devices through self-advocacy. Attend state and national conferences as funds allow that provide information regarding current assistive technology issues and/or advocacy skills training.

Priority 3: Provide information to individuals with disabilities, their families and other advocates or representatives to assist them in obtaining assistive technology services and devices through self-advocacy.

OBJECTIVE:

- Provide accurate and timely information and referral services to individuals with disabilities and their families about obtaining assistive technology services and devices.

PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY FOR TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY (PATBI)

OCTOBER 1, 2004, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2005

In 2003, the Protection and Advocacy for individuals with Traumatic Brain Injuries (PATBI) program was created through a grant from the Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration. This program's purpose is to expand advocacy services for individuals with traumatic brain injuries and to expand the service delivery system for this group of individuals.

Priority 1: Assure access to services for individuals that have traumatic brain injury.

OBJECTIVES

- Review allegations of discrimination on behalf of 5 individuals with traumatic brain injury who have been denied services under the ADA Title 2 and 3, or Fair Housing Act and take appropriate action. (TBI in the community)
- Review complaints on behalf of 5 individuals with traumatic brain injury and take appropriate action to assure that state supported residential services that are provided through the Division of Disability, Aging, and Rehabilitation Services are provided in the least restrictive environment. (TBI waiver)
- Review allegations that educational services have been inappropriately reduced or terminated due to suspension or expulsion on behalf of 5 students with traumatic brain injury and take appropriate action to assure their right to receive a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). (TBI for Spec Ed)

Priority 2: Develop and implement outreach strategies to assure that IPAS services will be delivered appropriately for individuals with Traumatic Brain Injuries and their families.

OBJECTIVES:

- Provide information about traumatic brain injuries and disability rights to those entities serving individuals with traumatic brain injury.

Priority 3: Identify those critical barriers that prevent individuals with traumatic brain injury from living their lives as independently and productively as they wish.

OBJECTIVES:

- Identify and utilize relevant research based information about the service needs of individuals with Traumatic Brain Injuries and “state of the art” systems development approaches to enhance services for individuals with traumatic brain injuries and their families.
- Partner with entities serving individuals with traumatic brain injury to identify services within the state of Indiana.
- Contact both the Indiana State Department of Health, the Brain Injury Association of Indiana, and other applicable state agencies to assist them in the procurement of federal grant funds.
- Promote the incorporation of services for individuals with traumatic brain injuries and their families, into the state service delivery system.

Priority 4: IPAS will provide timely and accurate information to individuals with traumatic brain injury, their families, and professionals about disability rights and provide information and technical assistance concerning the exercise of their rights.

OBJECTIVE:

- Respond to requests for information and referral and technical assistance.

CLIENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CAP)

OCTOBER 1, 2004, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2005

For individuals seeking services from a program or project funded under the Rehabilitation Act. In Indiana, this would be Vocational Rehabilitation Services and Centers for Independent Living. The Client Assistance Program (CAP) is a federal formula grant program established under Section 112 of the Rehabilitation Act to assist clients or applicants in their relationships with programs, such as the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, the Division of Blind Services, and Center for Independent Living. CAP is funded out of the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services.

Priority 1: IPAS will secure services through Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS) and Independent Living Centers (ILC) for eligible individuals.

OBJECTIVE:

- Monitor VRS decisions in regards to eligibility of individuals seeking employment services.

Priority 2: IPAS will advocate that VRS and independent living center services applicants and clients have the opportunity to make informed choices and fully participate throughout the VRS process.

OBJECTIVES:

- Investigate complaints regarding failure of VRS and ILC in providing choice to individuals seeking services under these programs.
- Monitor the quality and completeness of Individual Plan for Employment (IPE) documents developed by VRS as they relate to the individual's identified vocational services and supports as well as choice(s).

Priority 3: Promote and preserve informed client choice in all proposed VRS policies.

OBJECTIVE:

- Assure that VRS continues to provide services as mandated per the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended.

Priority 4: Provide timely and accurate information about disability rights and technical assistance concerning the exercise of these rights.

OBJECTIVES:

- Respond to requests for information and referral and technical assistance.
- Provide information about VRS and the ILCs to individuals residing in Room and Board Assistance facilities (RBAs).

PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY FOR VOTING ACCESS (PAVA)

OCTOBER 1, 2004, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2005

In 2003, under the Help America Vote Act, the PAVA program started. IPAS role under the Protection and Advocacy for Voting Accessibility (PAVA) program is to help ensure that voting systems and polling places are accessible for individuals with disabilities, and to assist individuals with disabilities in exercising their rights to file a voting rights complaint related to their disability.

Priority 1: Provide education and training to increase the self-advocacy skills of individuals with disabilities and their families, advocates and other representatives, regarding voter registration, access to polling places and the right to cast a ballot.

OBJECTIVES:

- Respond to requests for training and information regarding the Help America Vote Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act in regards to equal access to the polling place.
- Collaborate with the Secretary of State on the development of an instructional video on voter rights aimed at county clerks and the general public. IPAS will provide input as to disability voter rights and accessibility matters as well as some funding for the project to supplement (not supplant) the efforts already planned by the SOS' office.
- Collaborate with the Secretary of State to disseminate information regarding the state's grievance procedure that will take effect January 1, 2006 and the role of IPAS in that process.

Priority 2: Determine accessibility of all polling places.

OBJECTIVE:

- Survey polling places during the November 2004 general election that were not surveyed during the May 2004 primary election.

Priority 3: IPAS will provide timely and accurate information to individuals with disabilities, their families, and other advocates about their rights to register, access polling place, and their right to cast their vote and provide information and technical assistance concerning the exercise of their rights.

OBJECTIVE:

- Respond to requests for information and referral and technical assistance.

IPAS COMMISSION

PATRICIA L ANDERSEN*
LAKE CO

VICKI CONLIN
SECRETARY
CLARK CO

KRISTIE M CARTER*
CHAIRPERSON
MARION CO

SARAH EMERSON*
VIGO CO

LISA FLOYD
MADISON CO

REBA JACKSON
MARION CO

VERONICA MACY*
VICE CHAIRPERSON
HAMILTON CO

GARY MAY
WARRICK CO

MELANIE MOTSINGER
ALLEN CO

KATHY OSBORN
MARION CO

WILLIAM RIGGS PHD
HANCOCK CO

ALAN SPAULDING
BLACKFORD CO

CECILIA WEBER
TIPPECANOE CO

ADVISORY MEMBERS

ROBERT N JACKMAN DVM
SENATOR
DECATUR/FAYETTE/
FRANKLIN/RUSH/SHELBY
COS

JOHN J DAY
REPRESENTATIVE
MARION CO

IPAS MENTAL ILLNESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

PABLO GARCIA JR*
HOWARD CO

LISA GIBSON*
PUTNAM CO

MERRILL GRILE*
VICE CHAIRPERSON
MADISON CO

JAMES F HURST*
SECRETARY
HOWARD CO

PAMELA MCCONEY*
HAMILTON CO

CHARLES A. PRESSLER PHD*
ST JOSEPH CO

RON RIGGS PHD*
HOWARD CO

CECILIA WEBER*
CHAIRPERSON
TIPPECANOE CO

TERRY A WHITE*
WARRICK CO

ERIC WRIGHT PHD*
MARION CO

EXECUTIVE STAFF

THOMAS GALLAGHER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MILO GRAY JR
LEGAL AND CLIENT SERVICES
DIRECTOR

GARY RICHTER
SUPPORT SERVICES
DIRECTOR

SUPPORT SERVICES

JOYCE COOK
SECRETARY

ANTHONY LIGGINS
DATA ENTRY

ELIZABETH NAJAR
PROGRAM SPECIALIST

KAREN PEDEVILLA
EDUCATION/TRAINING
DIRECTOR

SONDRA POE
ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

LORI SANDERS
ACCOUNT CLERK

JUDITH I WADE
FISCAL OFFICER

CLIENT AND LEGAL SERVICES

DEBRA DIAL
ATTORNEY
PAIR PROGRAM
COORDINATOR

GARY RICKS
ATTORNEY
PAAT PROGRAM
COORDINATOR

JENNIFER WOODS
ATTORNEY
PAVA PROGRAM
COORDINATOR

SUE BEECHER
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
OF CLIENT SERVICES
PABSS/CAP/PATBI
PROGRAM COORDINATOR

DAVID BOES

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF
CLIENT SERVICES
PAIMI PROGRAM
COORDINATOR

DEE ENRICO-JANIK
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF
CLIENT SERVICES
PADD PROGRAM
COORDINATOR

VIVIAN BRADLEY
ADVOCACY SPECIALIST

DONNA DELLINGER
ADVOCACY SPECIALIST

DEBBIE DULLA
ADVOCACY SPECIALIST

CANDACE FEGLEY
ADVOCACY SPECIALIST

DOUG GOEPPNER
ADVOCACY SPECIALIST

ALLYSON C KEITH
ADVOCACY SPECIALIST

BONNIE KIRK
ADVOCACY SPECIALIST

PEGGY OWENS
ADVOCACY SPECIALIST

AMY J PENROD-SPICER
ADVOCACY SPECIALIST

LOLITA THOMPSON
ADVOCACY SPECIALIST

DANIEL WARD
ADVOCACY SPECIALIST

BONNIE WEAVER
ADVOCACY SPECIALIST

TERRY WHITEMAN
ADVOCACY SPECIALIST

CATHY WINGARD
ADVOCACY SPECIALIST

MEMBER RECRUITMENT

IPAS is always looking for new Commission and Advisory Council members to help serve the needs of individuals with disabilities. Commission members must have a commitment toward promoting the legal and civil rights of persons with developmental disabilities, mental illness or other disabilities, and to the cause of protecting and promoting those individuals' rights to make their own personal choices.

The IPAS Commission consists of 13 members. The Governor appoints four. The remainder are appointed by majority vote of the membership. Commission members serve three-year terms.

The Mental Health Advisory Council consists of 10 members appointed by the Governor to serve a non-renewable four-year term.

*Gubernatorial appointment

This publication was made possible by funding support from the Administration for Children and Families (38%), the Center for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (28%), the Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau (2%), all within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services (27%), and the Social Security Administration (5%).

These contents are solely the responsibility of the grantee and do not necessarily represent the official views of state or federal government.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

4701 N KEYSTONE AVE #222
INDIANAPOLIS IN 46205

PHONE 317.722.5555

STATEWIDE TOLL-FREE 800.622.4845

TTY 800.838-1131 OR 317.722.5563

FAX 317.722-5564

WWW.IN.GOV/IPAS



4701 N KEYSTONE AVE #222 INDIANAPOLIS IN 46205

PRESORTED
STANDARD MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
INDIANAPOLIS, IN
PERMIT No. 803